(iii) Educational qualification and general level of intelligence;

(iv) Capability to provide infrastructure and facilities (land, godown, showroom, etc.);

(v) General Assessment.

Pakistan Consent on the Proposal of Laying Irani Gas Pipeline to India

†4233. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL

SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has accorded its consent on the proposal of laying of Irani Gas Pipe Line through its soil upto India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the project of laying of gas pipe line is likely to be undertaken;

(d) what amount is likely to be spent on this project; and

(e) by when this project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) The Government of Pakistan has not sent any formal communication in this regard.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Desulphurised Petrol and Diesel

4234. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have introduced another Euro-II friendly fuels, desulphurised brands of petrol and diesel;

(b) if so, cost difference for litre on desulphurised petrol and diesel, compared to conventional products; and

(c) whether with the desulphurisation, the echo-friendly life of petrol and diesel driven vehicle is expected to increase, if so, to what extent?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI. E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir. With effect from 1-4-2000, petrol and diesel with 0.05% sulphur content by weight have been introduced in National Capital Region (NCR) for all petrol engine vehicles and non-commercial private diesel driven vehicles complying Euro-II norms, respectively.

(b) The current retail selling prices of low sulphur (0.05% max.) petrol and diesel in Delhi are higher by 13 paise per litre and by 52 paise per litre respectively, as compared to regular petrol and diesel.

(c) Yes, Sir. The lower sulphur in petrol will increase the life of emission control devices like catalytic converters as well as on-board diagnostic system and oxygen sensors etc., which are fitted on new generation cars. In case of diesel, the lower sulphur besides reducing the particulate emissions, will reduce the engine corrosive wear thus increasing the engine life.

Creation of Employment Opportunities in Assam

4235. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what are the schemes undertaken by Government to create employment opportunity for uneducated, educated and skill youths in Assam, particularly in the hilly areas and North Cachar district during the last five years and till date; and

(b) the total funds allocated and released for the purpose during this period and total number of youths benefited by the above schemes in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the Government of Assam and the same willl be placed on the Table of the House.